

ARMOR PLATE MEN GET TRUCE IN FIGHT

Will Try to Effect an Agreement With Secretary Daniels on Prices.

HEARING OFF A WEEK

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—After several representatives of the armor plate industry had been heard before the Senate Naval Affairs Committee today an adjournment for a week was taken at the suggestion of Senator Penrose to permit the private manufacturers to confer with the Secretary of the Navy and try to reach an agreement on the price of armor plate that will "disengage" the government officers from the plan to build a government plant at this time.

At a former meeting of the committee President E. G. Grace of the Bethlehem Steel Company testified that if the government could assure the private manufacturers of a definite program of construction covering a period of years that would keep the plants reasonably active a substantial reduction could be brought about in the price. Representatives of the Midvale Steel Company were heard today before the committee on the bill to appropriate \$11,000,000 for a government plant. Alva C. Dinkley, president of the Midvale company, and William P. Barba, manager of the Midvale works, represented that company at the hearing. The Bethlehem Steel Company's representatives were present and toward the close of the hearing Rear Admiral Joseph Strauss, chief of the ordnance bureau of the Navy Department, was on the stand.

Sentiment for a Vote.

It is probable that at the next meeting of the committee, unless there is an agreement between Secretary Daniels and the armor plate manufacturers, a vote will be taken on the bill authorizing the plant, and it may be taken, even in the event of an agreement. The sentiment of the committee appears favorable to the bill, and under resolution put through by Chairman Tillman six members of the committee of seventeen may constitute a quorum for business, and a vote of five members can report a bill.

Just before the hearing closed a suggestion was made that the Carnegie company had not been represented by the chairman Tillman, referred to the fact that one of the "head devils" of the armor plate industry had evidenced no interest in the proceedings. He referred those present to Senator Penrose for an explanation, saying, "These are all industries in the State of Pennsylvania."

Senator Chilton asked if the Carnegie company were not a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, and the steel representatives present assented.

"President (Gary) is quoted in the morning papers as being in favor of the bill," suggested Senator Chilton. "I observe that he is a candidate for President too."

The other ordinance men present expressed surprise and doubt whether Chairman Gary had been correctly quoted.

Mr. Dinkley's Statement.

Mr. Dinkley read a statement reciting briefly the history of armor plate manufacture in the United States showing how the Government had encouraged private profits to enter the business and the method of dividing contracts equally upon the basis of the lowest price bid.

Mr. Dinkley had with him an elaborate exhibit compiled from the company's books by expert New York accountants showing the cost of making armor and also the profits and losses of the company. He offered to give copies of the exhibit to the committee or any of its members or to Secretary Daniels, provided it would not be published, holding that it would be unfair to allow competitors to obtain the data.

He referred to competing manufacturers abroad as "tricky little fellows." The committee was opposed to accepting the exhibit in confidence, the chief protest being made by Senators Tillman and Penrose, but it was the opinion of the Senators that Mr. Dinkley's position was well taken.

Senator Swanson, however, thought it would do no harm for Mr. Dinkley to give general figures as to costs and profits. Mr. Dinkley did this, so far as operations on tonnage for the battleship Pennsylvania was concerned, and insisted he would be glad to make public everything possible, so long as it did not result in trade secrets being divulged publicly.

The Midvale company, with a capacity at present of 7,500 tons of armor per year, got the entire contract for \$550 tons for the Pennsylvania. Mr. Dinkley said the out of pocket cost per ton for making this material was \$14.55, the plant running at from one-third to one-half capacity. With the plant running at capacity, he said, a profit of approximately 10 per cent. can be made on the contract.

The last group of tonnage made for the Pennsylvania, said William P. Barba, manager for the Pennsylvania company, will be delivered in March. Mr. Barba testified and mentioned that the armor profits for 1915 may reach 12 per cent.

Mr. Dinkley announced that the Midvale company is planning to increase the capacity of its plant to about 10,000 tons and that this will involve, among other things, an expenditure of \$1,000,000 for a forging press and its equipment.

PRISON CONVICTION UPHELD.

State Wins Case Against Great Meadow Builders.

ANNEAPOLIS, Jan. 25.—The conviction of the Hudson Valley Construction Company, in connection with the construction of the Great Meadow prison at Conestoga, was upheld today by the court of Appeals.

The company in the lower court was fined \$5,000. Cornelius V. Collins, former State Superintendent of Prisons, and Philip H. Ware, former State Architect, and Charles Sussdorf, Deputy State Architect, were also indicted on a charge of irregularities in connection with the building of the prison.

WOMEN TO VOTE ON SUFFRAGE.

Bill in Assembly Provides for an Election of Their Own.

ALBANY, Jan. 25.—A bill to let the women of the State vote on the suffrage question at a special election was introduced today by Assemblyman Cottino of New York.

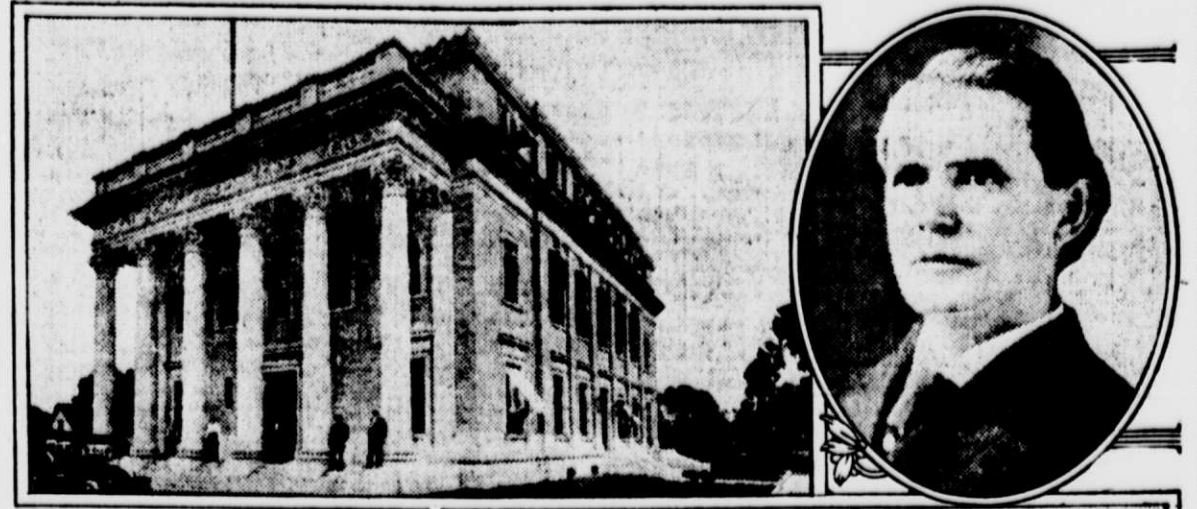
He would have the election on the Monday preceding the general election this year, "for the purpose of determining the sentiment of the women of the State on the question of conferring upon them the right to vote."

The election is to be held at the same polling places as are designated for the general election and is to be conducted by the same officers.

Women who possess the qualification to vote for officers other than the qualification of sex shall be entitled to vote and no person shall be qualified to vote.

WILSON PUTS LID ON PORK BARREL AND THE HOUSE TRIES TO PRY IT OFF

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President Serves Notice There Is to Be No Public Build- ings Bill.

\$25,000,000 FOR ROADS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—It looks as if this will be a lean year for those members of Congress who are always after "pork" for their home districts.

President Wilson has served notice that there is to be no public buildings bill at this session of Congress and that the expenditures on account of rivers and harbors must be held down to the lowest possible figures. This developed today after the President had had a conference with Representative Kitchen, Democratic leader of the House.

In this stand the President is supported by some of the leaders in Congress, but he is certain to encounter opposition among the rank and file who insist on their yearly ration of pork.

The President, however, will hold the whip hand in that he will be able to veto any bills of this character carrying excessive appropriations.

\$25,000,000 Road Bill Favored.

Notwithstanding the insistence of the White House upon economy, the House yesterday took action in favor of the \$25,000,000 road bill, which would improve roads in the various States. This measure is regarded as the latest pork barrel to be rolled into the House.

If the Federal Government is committed to road building through this \$25,000,000 appropriation, it will only be the first drop in the bucket and millions in addition will follow.

Under the terms of the bill the appropriation is to be apportioned among the States according to population and the amount of good roads work done by the respective States. The bill now goes to the Senate and the general expectation is that it will die in that body.

The good roads bill was attacked in the House today by Representative Longworth of Ohio, who said that he might favor such legislation in ordinary times, but that the Treasury is in no condition to stand a \$25,000,000 drain on its resources for road improvements.

Representative Clark of Florida, chairman of the House Committee on Public Buildings, who declared the other side of the coin, said that the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Gulf to the lakes, ought to have a public building, was questioned tonight in regard to the situation.

"It has become the habit of some newspaper writers to attack public buildings appropriations, but these attacks are unjustified," said Mr. Clark. "In the main the authorization for public buildings makes for better, more efficient and economical public service."

"It is my opinion that it is a good thing, from a patriotic standpoint for the Federal Government to maintain buildings in towns where the business interests are such expenditures. It brings home to these communities the fact that the central government is close to them, and the display of the flag has a patriotic significance that should not be overlooked."

Mr. Clark Won't Apologize.

In favor of the construction of a public building in every town in the country of any size, and have no apologies to make for my work in connection with public building legislation, Mr. Clark made an attack on a member of the House in securing the passage of a bill providing a public building for Gainesville, Fla., and the display of the flag has a patriotic significance that should not be overlooked.

"The fact as to population is not correctly stated so far as Gainesville is concerned, and furthermore, Gainesville is a more important community than would be judged by a perusal of the article in *World's Work*. The last pool census gave Gainesville a population of 11,000. The State University is located there. Three railroads enter Gainesville, and the postal receipts of the city in 1915 were approximately \$25,000."

A Federal court session in Gainesville twice a year, each session lasting for two to three weeks. The Federal land office in Gainesville transacts the land business for the entire State.

"We have certain definite rules that govern the House committee in making public buildings bills, and only in rare instances does the committee fail to follow them. A town must have postal receipts of \$2,000 to get a site, and receipts of \$10,000 to get a building. I think it is good policy to provide buildings for cities where the receipts foot up to \$10,000 a year."

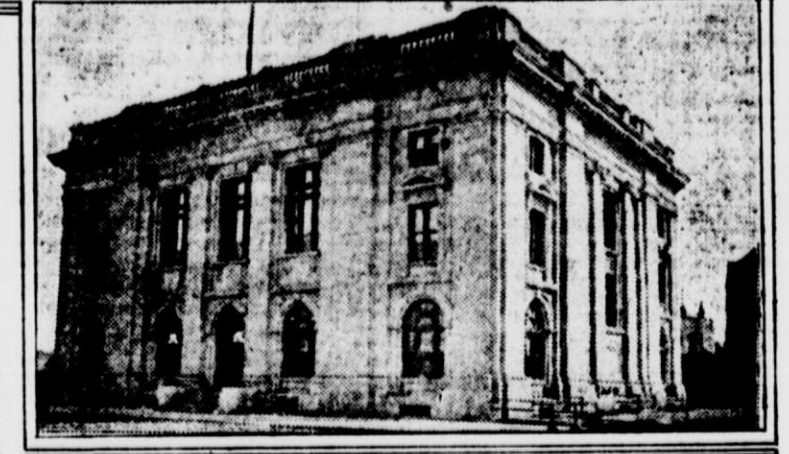
PALACES OF PORK.

Barton J. Hendrick Shows How the Barrel Rolls.

Congress's alleged pork barrel, which threatens to interfere seriously with the country's preparedness movement, is the subject of an article by Barton J. Hendrick in the February *World's Work* Magazine, who describes the contents of the barrel as the "pork that smells to high heaven."

The article is particularly timely in view of the condition of the Treasury and the recent statements of such men as Representative Clark of Florida, who said in the House last week: "I am in favor of reasonable preparedness, but if it means that we must stop work on public buildings I am against preparedness tooth and nail."

Representative Clark, who is chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings, and who said he did not speak from ill-will, but from the fact that every town in his district is provided for, followed this up by declaring that he favors erecting a public building in every town in the



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ABOVE, the Post Office Building at Gainesville, Fla., the home of Representative Frank Clark. The building cost \$150,000 and the town has a population of 11,000, according to Mr. Clark. To right is a photograph of Representative Clark, chairman of the House Committee on Public Buildings. Below is a photograph of the Federal Building at Evanston, Wyo., described as the greatest piece of extravagance ever incurred by the United States Government. The population of the town is 2,500, the building cost \$185,000, and court is held in it only two days in the year. Speaking of such buildings Representative Clark said: "These buildings inculcate a spirit of patriotic pride which is not measurable in dollars and cents. They will remind the people of the glory, the majesty and the power of this great Republic."

WILSON AND BRITAIN ASSAILED BY BENNET

New York Representative Says President Did Injustice to Foreign Born.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—A protest against British interference with American commerce was uttered in the House today by Representative Bennett of New York in a speech in which he criticized President Wilson for his reference to foreign born citizens in the Executive message of December 7 last.

Mr. Bennett asserted that when the President spoke of foreign born citizens in the United States he had done a grave injustice to many loyal citizens. "Because out of a total foreign born population in our country of exceeding over 14,000,000," said Mr. Bennett, "the people know that but one man has been accused of a violation of our neutrality laws, a number so infinitesimal that neither the President nor any one else in a high position should have acquiesced in such a statement by an implication which, coming from such a source, must be considered to refer to large numbers."

Mr. Bennett said that Americans of German descent had great cause for complaint against the foreign policy of the Administration.

"What our citizens of German birth or extraction protest about is the fact that we seem to be sinking into a position of a dependency of Great Britain," said Mr. Bennett. "Mr. Garrison, if he is logical, holds that view because he says that during the progress of the war we ought to have a neutrality law, a violation of which would be a crime."

"If we decline to interfere then we become an ally of Great Britain. We are going to be an ally of Great Britain let us have the old fashioned American sturdiness and take the disadvantages with our advantages as if we were going to be an ally of Great Britain and if this House thinks that way, which I do not admit, let him introduce a resolution to the effect so that the American people can at least have the courage of Japan and not be in the present position of Greece."

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WILSON TO SEE 1,500 PASTORS.

Will Accept Peace Thanks at Meeting in New York to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—President Wilson at noon on Thursday will attend a meeting of 1,500 ministers of all denominations in Aeolian Hall, New York. The pastors are to express to him their appreciation of his efforts in behalf of peace. The President is expected to speak briefly in reply. President Wilson will leave Washington for New York to-morrow at midnight and will return at midnight on Thursday, following his address before the Railroad Business Men's Association and the Motion Picture Board of Trade on preparedness.

URGENT WILSON TO PEACE MOVE.

Socialists Call on President With Three Recommendations.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—A committee of the executive board of the Socialist party, headed by Representative Meyer London of New York, called on President Wilson to present three formal recommendations.

1. That he support the House resolution introduced by Representative London, calling upon the President to convene a congress of neutral nations to offer mediation to the belligerent nations of Europe.

2. That he support measures to improve the political and civil status of the Jews in Europe, especially in Russia.

3. That he press a programme for adequate preparedness for defence. The President did not commit himself.

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Senate and House Military Committees Favor Federal Supervision.

LESSONS OF WAR TOLD

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—A growing sentiment among members of the House and Senate Military Affairs Committees toward a restriction of the profits of munition makers may result in the adoption of a plan, in conjunction with any preparedness measure, for governmental supervision over this branch of industrial activity.

The purpose of such a scheme would be to allay suspicion that the preparedness movement was undertaken in the interest of munition makers and to check the agitation in favor of the establishment of Government plants for making munitions and armament.

This phase of the national defence problem has occupied to a considerable extent the attention of legislators now conducting hearings and there is a noticeable disposition on the part of

many of them to take some precautionary action.

Col. Charles G. Treat of the Army War College told the Senate Military Affairs Committee today of the lessons that had been learned by the United States army as a result of the European war. American officers, said Col. Treat, detailed as observers with the armies of the European Powers have had unusual opportunities to study the mechanics of warfare and have been treated with courtesy. Their reports are now being studied by the Army War College.

More Artillery Needed.

Col. Treat told the committee that the United States lacked specially artillery and a reserve supply of ammunition. The artillery board, which has studied the question since the outbreak of the war, has recommended that there be five artillery pieces per thousand of infantry and cavalry troops. There are now only three. The German army had more than six before the outbreak of the war.

The field pieces of the United States, Col. Treat added, were the equal of those of any army in the world. The famous French 75 is practically duplicated by the United States three inch gun. The French shells, however, contain a much larger quantity of high explosive.

Recommendations have been made for the testing of several sizes of field howitzers from a 7.5 inch to a 16 inch gun.

The 16 inch guns used in Europe," said Col. Treat, "no longer require concrete foundations, but can be fired from a platform which is transported on a motor tractor. The gun and its carriage make three motor tractor loads and can be assembled for use within an hour and a half."

"The trouble which we learn the French are having with their high explosive shells that carry about four

times the exploding charge that ours do is the danger that they will explode in the gun. They have lost about 400 guns and gun crews by accidents of this kind."

High Explosive Shell Better.

"Another fact which we have learned is that the high explosive shell is much more effective than the shrapnel in destroying troops. Shrapnel is likely to cause much heavier casualties, but the terrible explosions of the shells affect the troops so gravely that they will stop a charge or destroy a column much more quickly."

"About 50 per cent. of the artillery which we are recommending for the United States army is of the 3 inch type, which can be handled by six horses over almost every type of terrain."

The difficulties of enlisting an army of the size proposed in various national defence plans were explained to the Senate committee by Adj.-Gen. Henry P. McCain of the army.

The maximum number of men that can be annually enlisted in the United States army, whether the term of enlistment be long or short. The record for enlistment was established last year, when 48,000 men were enrolled.

SULTAN'S YACHT TORPEDOED.

French Submarine in Bosporus Damages Turkish Ruler's Craft.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—An Athens despatch reports that word has been received there from Constantinople of the torpedoing of the Sultan's yacht, *Ezretah*, in the Bosporus by a French submarine late in December.

The vessel was badly damaged but not sunk.

U. S. TRADE BOOSTERS LEAVE ON CRACK TRAIN.

New York Delegates Off for New Orleans on Luxurious Flier.

The National Foreign Trade Special, one of the finest trains ever run on an American railroad, left the Pennsylvania station yesterday afternoon at 4.35 carrying 150 delegates to the Third National Foreign Trade Convention in New Orleans. The delegates will arrive at 7.50 A. M. to-morrow, after a trip via the Pennsylvania and Seaboard railways.

Seven hundred manufacturers, merchants, mining and lumber men, bankers, farmers, railroad and steamship operators from all over the country will gather to discuss means and methods for building up a merchant marine, utilization of the tariff for the encouragement of foreign trade, prevention of discrimination, and kindred topics.

Among the Eastern delegates are Charles T. Gwynne, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of New York State; Willard Straight, vice-president of the American International Corporation; P. A. S. Franklin, vice-president of the International Mercantile Marine; James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation; Ernest E. Ling, foreign trade manager, National City Bank; T. M. Jarvis, vice-president of the Lehigh Valley Railroad; and Eugene P. Thomas, president of the United States Steel Products Company.



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